

PETER'S PENCE. From the N. Y. Nation. When the magnificent Pope Leo X wanted money to build the Church of St. Peter, at Rome, he, in the innocence of his heart, resorted to a method which, though never popular, had been used with effect before. When we mention Monk Teitel and his drum, the method is indicated with sufficient distinctness. The multitude of the people fell into line obediently, and swelled handsomely the building fund for the sake of getting their sins proportionately remitted. But, unfortunately for Leo, some Martin Luther had his soul stirred within him, and raised a counter clamor so indignant and so strong that the influx of money considerably slackened, and a very different sort of influx set in towards the Holy See. Owing to that method of "raising the wind," the Church of St. Peter became about the most expensive edifice that ever was put up. Besides the gold and silver it cost, the owners had to pay for it sundry rich principalities, a goodly kingdom or two, the crowns of several potentates, imperial, ducal, princely, and other, the temporal allegiance of some many hundred thousand of joyful subjects who thenceforth, instead of seeking salvation in the Church, thought their chance of salvation improved the further away from the Church they got.

That experiment is hardly worth repeating. But it takes a great deal of wisdom to suggest a very little wisdom, and we are not so much surprised as we are that American politicians are willing to try it again. That they are willing to imitate Leo is evident. For several years it has been the custom of the party in power in New York to bestow pecuniary and other favors upon the Roman Catholics. The sums thus given out of the public treasury, which the people's earnings fill, were for a long time insignificant to provoke comment. But within a year or two, the sums have been made to other sectarian organizations. The Episcopalian have had some thing; the Jews have had a trifling amount; the Catholics have had a good deal. But all this together is so small that it only throws out in bold relief the patronage bestowed on the Catholics. Twenty years ago the Common Council of New York City leased to the Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum two entire blocks of ground in the Roman Catholic City—first and Fifty-second streets, for ninety-nine years, at the rate of one dollar per annum. On one of these lots stands the asylum; on the other is rising a magnificent church, as disastrous to the Church as St. Peter's itself was. Twenty years ago that land was comparatively cheap; it is now worth not less than a million of dollars. Last year the Catholic Church received for "charitable" objects \$45,074.14. This year it has already received \$80,000, and will undoubtedly receive a million more. It is not only the Catholic Church that is thus favored; the Roman Catholic fair has for several weeks obstructed travel on our most beautiful and most frequented public square.

The money is all given ostensibly and explicitly for charitable purposes. But that consideration of benevolence is a mere pretext; appropriations is perfectly clear from the fact that Protestant institutions of charity, though numerous and needy, get nothing, and must either live or starve. It is not only the Catholic Church that is thus favored; the Roman Catholic fair has for several weeks obstructed travel on our most beautiful and most frequented public square.

The Irish vote is worth a great deal for party purposes. Two or three hundred thousand dollars a year well invested in Catholic churches is a moderate price to pay for it. A million of dollars would not be dear if that were all. The people do not grudge the money for the splendid temple which was to make their city the wonder of the world once more, and draw pilgrims from all parts of the earth to Rome. It was something besides the gold and silver that made them pause. The Irish vote may be worth much brick and mortar and the choicest corner lots, but it is worth the indignation of the people, which is to be roused sooner or later by the gross misuse of their property and by the burden of illegal taxation? Is it worth the direct violation of our principle, that all forms of property shall stand on an equal perfect equality, shall be supported by voluntary contributions alone, and shall be entirely independent of the patronage of the State? Is it worth the open scandal brought upon public institutions by the scarcely disguised introduction of bribery into politics? Is it worth the permanent demoralization of an immense class of citizens who are made to feel that not their intelligence but their stupidity is the thing desired, their custom, not their consciences, their will, is a word and their virtue? Is it worth the encouragement given to the lowest order of the population to think themselves of some value as an element of power in the city? Is it worth the sequence of flinging a gratulation insult in the face of all the Protestant sects? Is it worth the risk of provoking an insurrection among the "evangelical" bodies that would bring reproach on the whole cause of religion, rouse the sectarian spirit to frenzy, and lead to scenes of violence that would disgrace our civilization? Religion is a dangerous weapon to use for political purposes, and if history furnishes any grounds for prophecy, it is safe to predict that the party using it in this country will pay, at least, a terrible price for its folly.

We regard this question as a political one solely. We have no prejudices against the Roman Church, and we have no ill will, as a form of government and of faith, we appreciate its value in communities where the Celtic race is found in large numbers. We would give it fair play, and should be exceedingly sorry to see the old bitterness against it reviving in the public mind. But at the same time we are jealous of our own rights, and we are not disposed to lay at rest for ever. We are thankful to help and to advise the Roman Catholics, and we advise the Irish vote to be granted none. If the Irish vote is so precious, even to the Republican party, let us try to secure it by means of the money which we have obtained, let us try to get along without it by increased efforts of our own intelligence.

"All Right"—But a Hard Life. The Brooklyn Press visited Little "All Right" behind the scenes, and gives us a touching idea of what it costs to assume the public. Next to editors, we believe actors lead the hardest life. The highest life, being in the neighborhood of the Academy of Music, we called on Little "All Right" in his room on the second floor above the stage. In a corner sat a man, less veteran, who was leaning back in a chair on the Japanese guitar for the amusement of the boy. In another corner, on his knees, rested a servant waiting for the next order. On the floor, the actor stretched a pallet, upon one side of which sat the chief of the troupe, indignantly fanning his son, Little "All Right," who lay on his back, and on the other side, "All Right" was dressed very elegantly, and his little ones were dressed with the anticipation of the next day's performance. Dr. Sayer entered the room, and after a little conversation, he said that he was very anxious to go before the people, presently he was called, and with much difficulty he arose and walked to the stairs. He was carried down, and then straightening himself with the air of a prince, he strode before the audience. In brief, he was put through a performance which must have made his prize worth with agony; but he bore it like a soldier, and smiled sweetly in response to the plaudits of the house. He came off, and nearly fainted—the applause recalled him, he went on and bent low to the floor, although a hundred dollars would not have tempted him so to torture himself. He was then put to bed.

THE AFFAIRS IN THE SOUTH. A Main Story in Richmond—Financial and Agricultural Situation in the Southern States. RICHMOND, July 5.—Excessive heat prevailed here to-day, the general prostration of active work. In the evening, about seven o'clock, a terrific change occurred in the weather, spreading over of previously cloudless sky by a dark, dense pall of clouds, through which, above the southern horizon, lightning alternated with a globular flame, luminous as a golden rocket, burst through banks of sable vapor with a bright beautiful effect. At the same time, the wind was blowing strong and swept with the heated breath of a storm, full gusts over the city. A false report of fire soon after caused the people to run out in alarm, and a few moments of such trepidation as to induce hundreds of whites and blacks to run from all parts of the city, fruitlessly seeking for a conflagration, which, most fortunately, the false alarm and the wind has now abated, and the strange apparition of clouds has slowly disappeared.

A gentleman who arrived in Richmond to-day after an extended tour all over the Southern States as far as the Mexican border, reports the condition of all branches of commerce and business as generally prosperous. Debt to large amounts due Northern creditors had to be left uncollected, and as the absence of money was everywhere apparent, few trade transactions were being carried out. In Northern Alabama he met some deplorable cases of destitution; people struggling to live in the absence of meat and even bread, and some of the most miserable misery of the continued prospect of not being sure of the little they rely on.

AFAIRS IN NEW ORLEANS. Rumored Intended Removal of the City Council by Sheridan—Investigation into the Abstraction of Louisiana Bonds. NEW ORLEANS, July 6.—The city has been much excited to-day over rumors that the General Commanding had issued an order removing the members of the City Council. Careful inquiries fail to confirm this report, but it is pretty well established that the order was prepared last night and ready to be issued, when the commandant was informed that the bonds, which it is alleged was wholly in the possession of the military, is under investigation, and some damaging revelations are promised.

The City Scrip Muddle—The Late President of the First National Bank Held to Bail in the Sum of \$50,000. NEW ORLEANS, July 7.—The muddle concerning the city scrip still continues. The Finance Committee have a long report in a strain of unusual severity upon the message of the acting Mayor, though failing to answer satisfactorily the points made by that functionary. In the report the committee have explained the issues of city scrip by the Comptroller have never been legalized by legislative act, though they attribute their want of legality to a certain neglect of the Comptroller. If the Comptroller is informed the city is bound in honor to pay them. The committee refuse to censure the Comptroller, and thus the matter assumes the character of a political issue. The Comptroller, appointed by Sheridan and the few officials who unfortunately were not removed when they should have been, are the only ones left. The Mayor of First National Bank notoriety, has been arraigned and held to bail in the sum of \$50,000.

THE SULTAN OF TURKEY. Sketch of His Imperial Majesty and his Nephews. The Sultan of Turkey, Abdul-Aziz I, Emperor of the Ottomans, just now residing in Paris, was born in the month of February, and is consequently thirty seven years of age. He brings with him to Napoleon's Court his two nephews, sons of his brother, Abdul-Medjid, the late Sultan, and his nephew, Abdul-Effendi, the eldest of the nephews, born on the 21st of September, 1840, is heir to the throne. The second nephew, Abdul-Hamid-Effendi, first saw the light on the 9th of August, 1857.

BLOODY FIGHT IN POUGHKEEPSIE. Fourth-of-July Difficulty Continued—Six Men Engaged in a General Fight—One Man Wounded. POUGHKEEPSIE, July 6.—About 8 o'clock P. M., on the Fourth of July, a man named Daly got into an altercation with another man, which led to a fight, in which Daly got the worst. This evening Daly and his two brothers met Whalen and two brothers named McAvoy, who had a revolver, and the latter was shot in the arm. The fight still continued, stones of all sizes being thrown, until the news of the matter reached the headquarters, when Officers Shields, Graham, and Haisted repaired to the scene, and succeeded in arresting the Daly and lodging them in jail. Search is being made for the rest of the rioters.

THE DOMINION OF CANADA. An Army Bill—Disappointed Spoilsmen. OTTAWA, July 6.—It is current here that a militia bill will be the first measure to be introduced in the Federal Legislature. It is also reported that Mr. McGee intends to use his influence in Montreal against the election of Cartier for Montreal, East, and the crumbling of the French Canadians at Cartier, not being knighted as well as MacDonald, proves dissatisfaction at the Government organization. The two men ought to be on the same footing. The Government say they will have a majority of sixty-five votes in the Federal House; but this cannot be known until the elections shall have come off.

How Newspaper Editors are Paid in Paris. Newspaper editors are well paid in Paris. It is affirmed in the journals that M. Clemens Duvoyon, who was recently elected by the writers of the Liberte, and who is about to become editor of the Epoque, is to receive a salary of 160,000 francs an indemnity on entering on his duties of \$20,000, carriage is moreover to be provided for him. On some of the journals the remuneration is even higher than this; and it is to be remembered that a Paris editor does nothing like the amount of work that is expected in London. In fact, the Parisian passes the greater portion of his time in smoking cigars and in talking; and if he knows of an article or two a week he thinks himself wonderfully industrious. Sometimes he lets weeks pass without writing a line.

The American Pianos in Paris. The American public ought to understand the fact that decorations of the Legion of Honor premiums, given by the French Government, are not a person and can really be obtained by any respectable person with the aid of influential friends at the French Court. Such decorations are entirely distinct from and outside of the honors and awards of the International Juries, not to mention that they are not mentioned in their knowledge, and are not mentioned in their report, but secured by outside influence. The exhibition and endorsement accorded to each article by the International Jury can alone be regarded as the standard of excellence of the articles exhibited, and if the French Government favors and interference with the duties of the Juries on the part of the French Government, such a decoration may feel it is merely an adverse effect or a due to the verdict of the International Jury regarding the articles exhibited by him.—N. Y. Express.

The Fairies Outdone. The Princess, in the Fairy Tale, drops pearls from her mouth when she opened it, but who has a mouthful of pearls that will never drop out, darsen, or decay. McGee, the Irish Canadian, is said to be greatly disgusted at receiving no appointment as a reward for his exertions in favor of confederation.

RIGHTED TO. Trial of John H. Surratt. Continued from Fourth Edition. WASHINGTON, July 6. Mr. John T. Ford was called as the first witness for the defense, and was examined by the State Attorney, who asked him if he had ever seen John H. Surratt in Baltimore in 1865, and was present at the trial of Surratt in this city. He replied in the affirmative, and was then sworn. He testified that he had seen Surratt in Baltimore in 1865, and was present at the trial of Surratt in this city. He testified that he had seen Surratt in Baltimore in 1865, and was present at the trial of Surratt in this city.

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